

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
LIVESTOCK DRUGS LAW**

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## **CHAPTER 4. LIVESTOCK DRUGS**

### **ARTICLE 1. LEGISLATIVE INTENT**

14200. The Legislature hereby declares that this chapter, which prescribes the distribution and use of livestock drugs, is intended to assure that such drugs are available to livestock producers for their use in protecting the health of the livestock population of the state, and that such use will in turn benefit the general public by providing an abundant supply of wholesome food and fiber.

It is further declared that nothing in this chapter is intended to prevent a livestock producer from administering livestock drugs safely and effectively when such use is in accordance with the labeling directions for the drug used.

### **ARTICLE 1.5 DEFINITIONS**

14201. Unless the context otherwise requires, the definitions in this article govern the construction of this chapter.

14202. "Drug" means any of the following substances:

- (a) Any substance which is intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, prevention, or treatment of disease.
- (b) Any substance, except food and water, which is intended to affect the structure or function of the body of any livestock.

14203. "Restricted drug" means any livestock drug which is sold in such form that it might be administered to humans and if so administered would be dangerous to the health of such humans or any livestock drug which is improperly administered to livestock is dangerous to the health of such livestock or to humans who consume products from such livestock. Restricted drugs include all of the following:

- (a) Arsenic compounds and preparations.
- (b) Diethylstilbestrol and other substances which have a hormonelike action.
- (c) Sulfanilamide or substitute sulfanilamides.
- (d) Antibiotic preparations.
- (e) Such other drugs and their preparations which the director determines are hazardous to the health of livestock or the public safety.

14204. "Label" includes written and graphic matter which is imprinted upon, or upon paper or other material affixed to, or accompanying, a container of a livestock drug.

14205. "Livestock" includes all animals, poultry, and bees and aquatic and amphibian species which are raised, kept, or used for profit. It does not include those species which are usually kept as pets, such as dogs, cats, and pet birds.

14206. "Livestock drug" means any drug, combination of drugs, proprietary medicine, or combination of drugs and other ingredients which is prepared for administration to livestock orally, hypodermically, topically, or otherwise.

14207. "Manufacturer" includes any person that is responsible for the placing of a livestock drug on the market in this state.

14208. "Retailer" means any person that sells any livestock drug at retail.

14209. "Distribute" means to offer for sale, sell, exchange, or barter.

## **ARTICLE 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

14231. The director shall enforce this chapter and, in accordance with the provisions of Section 14200, may make and enforce such regulations which relate to the manufacture, sale, and use of livestock drugs as he may deem necessary to carry out this chapter.

14232. All money which is received under this chapter shall be paid into the Department of Agriculture Fund. Any money in the Department of Agriculture Fund which is derived under this chapter and Chapter 6 (commencing with section 14901) of this division may be expended for the administration and enforcement of any of the provisions of such chapters, notwithstanding any other provision which limits the expenditure of any such money to the specific purposes or to the administration or enforcement of each of such chapters separately.

14233. The provisions of this chapter shall be controlling over those of any other provisions of law which are in conflict with them. No act or thing which is authorized or permitted by this chapter shall be in violation of any other provisions of law.

## **ARTICLE 3. EXEMPTIONS**

14261. This chapter, except Section 14363, does not apply to any of the following:

(a) Any livestock drug which is sold exclusively to, and used exclusively by, or under the direction of, a licensed veterinarian, nor to any livestock drug which is compounded by a registered pharmacist upon the prescription of a licensed veterinarian.

(b) Any drug or other preparation which is dispensed or compounded by a registered pharmacist at the request of the purchaser if such drug or preparation is sold at retail.

(c) Any commercial feed which is subject to Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 14901) of this division, irrespective of the presence in such commercial feed of any ingredients which otherwise would constitute a livestock drug.

14262. This chapter also does not apply to any of the following:

(a) Any livestock drug which is intended for, and which is used solely for, laboratory or experimental purposes.

(b) Any substance which is intended for, and which is used primarily as, a pesticide and which is registered as an economic poison under Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 12751) of this division.

(c) Any biological product which is manufactured under a license issued by the United States Department of Agriculture or the State Department of Public Health.

(d) Any drug which is required by federal law to be sold on prescription only.

#### **ARTICLE 4. REGISTRATION**

14281. A person shall not sell any livestock drug in this state prior to receipt of a registration certificate pursuant to this chapter.

14282. The manufacturer of any livestock drug shall apply to the director for registration of the livestock drug.

14283. The application shall be in a form which is supplied by the director. It shall show all of the following:

(a) The name of the applicant and the address of his principal place of business.

(b) The name, brand, or trademark under which the livestock drug is to be sold.

(c) The minimum net contents of each size and type of container in which the livestock drug is to be sold at retail.

(d) The name of each active drug ingredient and the quantity or proportion of each such ingredient.

(e) A statement of each purpose for which the livestock drug is to be used.

(f) A statement of the form in which the livestock drug is to be administered, the method of administration, and, if the method of administration involves the use of any special device which is supplied with such drug, a description of such device.

(g) A statement of the amount and frequency of the dosage which is to be recommended.

(h) Such other information and data as the director may require.

14284. The application shall also contain a detailed description, or be accompanied by a copy, of the label of each type and size of container in which the livestock drug is to be sold at retail.

14285. The label shall contain all of the following:

(a) The name, brand, or trademark of the livestock drug.

(b) The name of the applicant and his principal address.

(c) The minimum net contents of the container.

(d) A statement of the disease or ailments of livestock which it is claimed that the livestock drug will alleviate or cure.

(e) Adequate instructions as to use and administration and adequate warnings against improper use and administration of the livestock drug, including adequate withdrawal periods and product disposal times to prevent any dangerous drug residues in products produced by livestock for human consumption.

(f) The name and amount of each active drug ingredient.

(g) A statement which clearly indicates that the product is not for human use.

(h) If the livestock drug is a restricted drug, the words "restricted drug, use only as directed" in conspicuous letters.

(i) Such other information as the director may require to ensure proper use to safeguard the health of animals and humans who consume products from such animals.

14286. If it is proposed that any instructions for use, other than those on the label, shall accompany containers of the livestock drug which are sold at retail, a copy of such instructions shall accompany the application for registration of the livestock drug.

14287. The director shall examine and consider the application together with all material, data, and information which accompanies it.

14288. The director shall refuse to register a livestock drug if he finds any of the following is true of the drug:

- (a) It is of little or no value for the purpose for which it is intended to be used.
- (b) It is dangerous to the health of livestock if used in accordance with the instructions.
- (c) The instructions for use do not contain adequate warnings against use in those conditions, whether pathological or normal, under which its use may be dangerous to the health of livestock, or humans who consume products from livestock, or against unsafe dosage, unsafe duration of use, or unsafe methods of administration.
- (d) If the application and the accompanying material, data, and information do not comply with the requirements of this chapter or are insufficient to permit the director to make the determinations which are required by this section.

14289. If the livestock drug is a restricted drug, the director shall also refuse registration if he finds that the instructions for use do not contain adequate and satisfactory directions as to the methods of handling, caring for, holding, or otherwise managing the livestock to which the drug is administered so as to eliminate any danger to the health of any person who might consume food products which are derived from such livestock.

14290. The registration of a livestock drug includes all of the following:

- (a) Registration of the drug and its ingredients.
- (b) Registration of the label.
- (c) Registration of the instructions for use.
- (d) Registration of the special device, if any, for the administration of the livestock drug.

14291. (a) The fee for a two-year registration certificate for a livestock drug is one hundred eighty dollars (\$180). The certificate period shall commence beginning January 1 of each even-numbered year and expire on December 31 of the next odd-numbered year.

(b) The fee for a registration certificate submitted during an odd-numbered year shall be ninety dollars (\$90), and the certificate shall remain in effect until December 31 of that year.

(c) The fee shall accompany the application for registration. The fee is not refundable if the registration is refused.

14292. If the registration is granted, the original fee covers the registration for the remainder of the then current calendar year in which registration is granted.

14293. The fee for application for renewal of registration is one hundred eighty dollars (\$180) for a two-year period. It is payable on or before January 31st of each year. If it is not so paid, a penalty of fifty dollars (\$50) shall be added to the fee.

14294. The director may quarantine and remove from sale any livestock drug which is not registered pursuant to this chapter or any livestock drug which does not conform in all respects with its registration.

14295. The director shall have access at all reasonable hours to all premises which are used in the manufacture, sale, or storage of any livestock drug, or where livestock drugs are mixed in feed for administering to livestock. He may take samples and make sure other investigations as are necessary to carry out this chapter and the regulations which are adopted pursuant to it.

14296. The director may revoke the registration of any livestock drug if he finds, from representative samples, that the drug as offered for sale fails to conform to its registration. The director may allow reasonable tolerances within which such samples may vary from the registration.

## **ARTICLE 5. RETAIL LICENSES FOR RESTRICTED LIVESTOCK DRUGS**

14321. A person shall not sell any restricted drug in this state at retail unless he holds a license to do so issued pursuant to this chapter.

14322. Any person may file with the director an application for a license pursuant to this chapter. The application shall be on a form which is supplied by the director and shall contain such information as he may require.

14323. The application shall be accompanied by an application fee of fifty dollars (\$50). The fee is not refundable if the license is refused.

14324. If the license is issued, the application fee covers the license for the remainder of the term in which it is issued.

14325. The fee for the renewal application for a license is fifty dollars (\$50) per year, payable on or before January 31 of each year. If the fee is not paid by that date, a penalty of fifty dollars (\$50) shall be added to the fee.

14326. A separate license is required for each place of business at which any restricted drug is kept for sale, and for each mobile unit in which any such drug is kept for sale.

14327. The director may make an examination of the facilities which are available to the applicant for the proper handling and storing of restricted drugs and may limit the kinds or classes of such drugs that may be sold under a license to those which the applicant is equipped properly to handle and store.

14328. Each holder of a license under this chapter shall keep a record, in the manner and form prescribed by the director of each sale of a restricted drug by licensee.

14329. The record required pursuant to Section 14328 shall include all of the following:

- (a) A statement of the kind and quantity of the restricted drug sold.
- (b) The date of sale.
- (c) The name and address of the purchaser.
- (d) The signature of the purchaser.
- (e) Any other information as the director may determine is reasonably necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

14330. The director shall revoke a restricted drug license if he finds that the holder of such license has failed to keep the required record of sales of such drugs, or is not properly handling or storing such drugs.

#### **ARTICLE 6. VIOLATIONS**

14351. It is unlawful for any person to sell any livestock drug which is subject to any provision of this chapter unless the drug is registered pursuant to this chapter.

14352. It is unlawful for any registrant to sell any livestock drug which does not conform with its registration.

14353. It is unlawful for any person to administer any registered livestock drug to any human being.

14354. It is unlawful for any person to sell any restricted drug unless such person has a license issued pursuant to this chapter.

14355. It is unlawful for any person to sell, use or administer any registered livestock drug except in accordance with the label instructions for use which are supplied by the registrant, including all warnings, withdrawal periods, and livestock product disposal times.

14356. It is unlawful for the holder of a restricted drug license to sell a restricted drug without requiring the purchaser of the restricted drug to sign his name and write his address in the record of such sales.

14357. It is unlawful for any person to refuse to permit the entry into and inspection of any premises wherein any livestock drug is manufactured or sold for the taking of samples of such drug.



14358. It is unlawful for any person to sell any livestock drug except in the container in which it is packaged by the manufacturer or distributor or to sell any such drug unless its package bears the label of the manufacturer or distributor.

14359. It is unlawful for any person to make false or misleading representation which relates to any livestock drug, whether such representation is communicated orally, graphically, pictorially, or otherwise.

14360. It is unlawful for any livestock owner or his or her agent to sell or dispose of treated livestock or livestock products within the specified withdrawal period without first notifying the buyer that the livestock or products have been treated. The notification shall be in a form prescribed by the director.

14361. The director may seize and hold any livestock drug which he has reasonable cause to believe is in violation of the provision of this chapter or the regulations adopted pursuant to it. The director shall continue to hold the livestock drug until such time as the requirements of this chapter have been complied with, at which time the lot shall be released. If the requirements of this chapter cannot be complied with, the director shall issue an order for disposal of the livestock drug, in a manner determined by him to protect the public health and safety and accomplish purposes of this chapter.

14362. It is unlawful for any person to manufacture, distribute, sell, or use any livestock drug without complying with the provisions of this chapter and the regulations which are adopted pursuant to it.

14363. (a) It is unlawful for any livestock owner or agent to sell or dispose of any livestock or livestock carcasses which within 48 hours after the buyer takes possession have drug residues in excess of allowable federal or state tolerances. In addition to any other penalties imposed by this chapter, any livestock owner or agent violating this section shall be liable to the buyer for an amount equal to three times the purchase price of any livestock or livestock carcasses with drug residues in excess of allowable federal or state tolerances so long as the liability does not conflict with the federal Packers and Stockyards Act, and shall be liable for a civil penalty of not more than one hundred dollars (\$100) for each head of livestock or livestock carcass disposed of or sold. In addition, the livestock owner or agent shall be liable for any attorney's fees.

(b) In addition to the penalties imposed by this chapter, the sale or disposition of any livestock or livestock carcass which, within 48 hours after the buyer takes possession, has drug residue in excess of allowable federal or state tolerances, is punishable by an administrative fine, levied by the director, in the amount of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) per head for a second or subsequent violation within a 12-month period.

(c) In lieu of assessing the administrative fine, the director may authorize a violator to attend an educational program on livestock drug residue avoidance which has been approved by the director. The violator shall successfully complete the program and provide proof to the director within 90 days from the occurrence of the violation.

(d) This section does not affect any rights or obligations under any contract between a livestock owner or agent, buyer, or any other party.

(e) Any additional funds collected as administrative fines pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the General Fund.

14364. (a) It is unlawful to sell or dispose of a bob veal calf for the purposes of slaughter without first affixing to the animal a producer identification number approved by the director.

(b) For purposes of this chapter, "bob veal calf" means a bovine animal 21 days of age or less or weighing 150 pounds or less, or as specified in Food Safety Inspection Service regulations of the United States Department of Agriculture.

(c) Bob veal calves that are identified as provided in Division 10 (commencing with Section 20001) are exempt from this section.

14365. (a) It is unlawful to sell or dispose of a dairy cull cow without first affixing to the animal a producer identification number issued by the director.

(b) For purposes of this chapter, "cull cow" means a female bovine animal 21 days of age or more, which is sold or disposed of for the purpose of slaughter.

(c) Cull cows that are identified as provided in Division 10 (commencing with Section 20001) are exempt from this section.

## **ARTICLE 7. PENALTIES**

14381. A violation of this chapter or of any regulation which is adopted by the director pursuant to this chapter is an infraction punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500) for the first violation. A second or subsequent violation of this chapter is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) and not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

14382. (a) The director may, after a hearing, refuse to issue or renew, or may suspend or revoke a livestock drug registration or restricted drug license for any violation of this chapter or any regulation which is adopted pursuant thereto.

(b) Upon calling a hearing, the director shall serve notice personally or by mail to the licensee or registrant specifying the time and place of the hearing at least 10 days prior to the hearing. At the hearing, the director may do all of the following:

(1) Administer oaths and hear testimony.

(2) Issue subpoenas requiring the attendance of the licensee, registrant, or witnesses, together with books, records, memoranda, papers, and all other documents that may be pertinent to the case.

(3) Compel the disclosure of the licensee or registrant and any witness of all the facts known to him or her regarding the case. In no instance shall any employee of the Feed, Fertilizer, and Livestock Drugs Branch serve as the hearing officer in any case under this section.

(c) Any person deprived of a licenses or registration has the right to appeal this action to the director.

## **ARTICLE 8. PROCEDURE FOR PROSECUTION**

14390. In addition to the remedies provided in this chapter, the department may bring an action in superior court and such court shall have jurisdiction upon hearing and for cause shown, to grant a temporary or permanent injunction restraining any person from violating any provision of this chapter or the rules and regulations adopted under this chapter. Any proceeding under the provisions of this section shall conform to the requirements of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 525) of Title 7 of Part 2 of the code of Civil Procedure. The department shall not, however, be required to allege facts necessary to show or tending to show irreparable damage or loss. The court may require such acts or course of conduct as necessary to effectuate the purpose of this chapter.

## **CHAPTER 4.5. LIVESTOCK: USE OF ANTIMICROBIAL DRUGS**

14400. For purposes of this chapter, the following definitions apply:

(a) “Medically important antimicrobial drug” means an antimicrobial drug listed in Appendix A of the federal Food and Drug Administration’s Guidance for Industry #152, including critically important, highly important, and important antimicrobial drugs, as that appendix may be amended.

(b) “Livestock” means all animals and poultry, including aquatic and amphibian species, that are raised, kept, or used for profit. Livestock does not include bees or those species that are usually kept as pets, such as dogs, cats, and pet birds.

(c) “Veterinary feed directive” has the same definition as in Section 558.3 of Title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

14401. Beginning January 1, 2018, a medically important antimicrobial drug shall not be administered to livestock unless ordered by a licensed veterinarian through a prescription or veterinary feed directive, pursuant to a veterinarian-client-patient relationship that meets the requirements of Section 2032.1 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations.

14402. (a) Beginning January 1, 2018, a medically important antimicrobial drug may be used when, in the professional judgment of a licensed veterinarian, the medically important antimicrobial drug is any of the following:

- (1) Necessary to treat a disease or infection.
- (2) Necessary to control the spread of a disease or infection.
- (3) Necessary in relation to surgery or a medical procedure.

(b) A medically important antimicrobial drug may also be used when, in the professional judgment of a licensed veterinarian, it is needed for prophylaxis to address an elevated risk of contraction of a particular disease or infection.

(c) A person shall not administer a medically important antimicrobial drug to livestock solely for purposes of promoting weight gain or improving feed efficiency.

(d) Unless the administration is consistent with subdivision (a), a person shall not administer a medically important antimicrobial drug in a regular pattern.

14403. (a) Notwithstanding Sections 14401 and 14402 of this code and Article 15 (commencing with Section 4196) of Chapter 9 of Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code, medically important antimicrobial drugs may be sold by retailers licensed pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with Section 14321) of Chapter 4 of Division 7 with a prescription or veterinary feed directive from a licensed veterinarian.

(b) This section shall not be construed to invalidate the requirement to obtain a prescription or veterinary feed directive to administer a medically important antimicrobial drug as required by Section 14401.

(c) The department may promulgate regulations to implement this section.

14404. (a) The department, in consultation with the Veterinary Medical Board, the State Department of Public Health, universities, and cooperative extensions, shall develop antimicrobial stewardship guidelines and best management practices for veterinarians, as well as livestock owners and their employees who are involved with administering medically important antimicrobial drugs, on the proper use of medically important antimicrobial drugs for disease treatment, control, and prevention. The guidelines shall include scientifically validated practical alternatives to the use of medically important antimicrobial drugs, including, but not limited to, the introduction of effective vaccines and good hygiene and management practices.

(b) The department shall consult with livestock producers, licensed veterinarians, and any other relevant stakeholders on ensuring livestock timely access to treatment for producers in rural areas with limited access to veterinary care.

(c) For purposes of this section, “antimicrobial stewardship” is a commitment to do all of the following:

- (1) To use medically important antimicrobial drugs only when necessary to treat, control, and, in some cases, prevent, disease.
- (2) To select the appropriate medically important antimicrobial drug and the appropriate dose, duration, and route of administration.
- (3) To use medically important antimicrobial drugs for the shortest duration necessary and to administer them to the fewest animals necessary.

14405. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that the department coordinate with the United States Department of Agriculture, the federal Food and Drug Administration, and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to implement the expanded antimicrobial resistance surveillance efforts included in the National Action Plan for Combating Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria, and that the information gathered through this effort will help lead to a better understanding of the links between antimicrobial use patterns in livestock and the development of antimicrobial resistant bacterial infections.

(b) (1) The department shall gather information on medically important antimicrobial drug sales and usage, as well as antimicrobial resistant bacteria and livestock management practice data. Monitoring efforts shall not be duplicative of the National Animal Health Monitoring System and the National Antimicrobial Resistance Monitoring System, and, to the extent feasible, the department shall coordinate with the United States Department of Agriculture, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the federal Food and Drug Administration in the development of these efforts.

(2) In coordinating with the National Animal Health Monitoring System and the National Antimicrobial Resistant Monitoring System, the department shall gather representative samples from all of the following:

- (A) California’s major livestock segments.
- (B) Regions with considerable livestock production.
- (C) Representative segments of the food production chain.

(c) The department shall work with willing participants to gather samples and shall consult with, and conduct outreach to, livestock producers, licensed veterinarians, and any other relevant stakeholders on the implementation of the monitoring efforts. Participation in this effort shall be done in a manner that does not breach veterinary-client-patient confidentiality laws.

(d) (1) The department shall report to the Legislature by January 1, 2019, the results of its outreach activities and monitoring efforts. The department shall advise the Legislature as to

whether or not participation is sufficient to provide statistically relevant data. The report shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

(2) This subdivision is inoperative on January 1, 2023, pursuant to Section 10231.5 of the Government Code.

(e) The department shall seek funds from federal, state, and other sources to implement this section.

(f) The department may promulgate regulations to implement this section.

14406. The department has the authority to request and receive copies of veterinary feed directives from the livestock owner, veterinarian, or distributor to fully implement the provisions of this chapter.

14407. Notwithstanding the California Public Records Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 6250) of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code), any information provided pursuant to this chapter and Section 14902.5, if that section is added by Senate Bill 770 of the 2015-16 Regular Session of the Legislature, shall be held confidential, and shall not be disclosed to any person or governmental agency, other than the department or the Veterinary Medical Board, for the purposes of enforcing the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act (Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 4800) of Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code), unless the data is aggregated to prevent the identification of an individual farm or business. Information may be shared with federal agencies so long as it is protected by the federal Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-347).

14408. (a) A person who violates this chapter shall be liable for a civil penalty of not more than two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) for each day a violation occurs.

(b) (1) For a second or subsequent violation, a person who violates this chapter shall be punishable by an administrative fine, levied by the secretary, in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500) for each day a violation occurs.

(2) In addition to the administrative fine, the violator shall attend an educational program on the judicious use of medically important antimicrobial drugs that has been approved by the secretary. The violator shall successfully complete the program and provide proof to the secretary within 90 days from the occurrence of the violation.

(c) Subdivisions (a) and (b) do not apply to licensed veterinarians. If the Veterinary Medical Board determines that a veterinarian is in violation of the Veterinary Medicine Practice Act (Chapter 11 (commencing with Section 4800) of Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code), the veterinarian may be subject to disciplinary sanctions pursuant to the act.

(d) The moneys collected pursuant to this article shall be deposited into the Department of Food and Agriculture Fund and shall be available for expenditure upon appropriation by the Legislature.